were reported in Jaipur alone during 1987-88, and if so, the details thereof?

(b) whether Government would make pesticide poisoning a notifiable incident throughout the country through suitable legislation and through an Ordinance in the interregnum period;

(c) whether Government had received, investigated and compiled any similar reports either through the Central Government Officers located all over the country or through State Governments or through its network of Press Information Officers from news-paper reports and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government would involve some of the Non Government Organisations engaged actively in this task?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(b) State Governments have been already empowered under Section 26 of the Insecticides Act, 1968 to notify the persons responsible for reporting occurrences of poisoning due to pesticides.

(c) The following incidences of poisoning due to pesticides have come to the notice of the Government during the last three years:—

Sl. No.	State	Year	Total No. of poisoning cases	Deaths
1.	Gujarat	1986	6	6
2.	Tamilnadu	1986	5	5
3.	Punjab	1986-87	126	126
4.	Kerala	1987	40	..
5.	Andhra Pradesh	1988	16	..

(d) No such proposal is under the consideration of the Government.

Pesticides endangering Health of children

1226. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Baby Foods, including weaning foods have been found to be dangerous sources of pesticides endangering health of children as reported in the TIME of the 6th March, 1989;

(b) whether it is a fact that studies in India by ICAR and other shows heavy presence of pesticides in foods;

(c) whether Government are aware that Apples are also exposed to heavy doses of pesticides;

(d) whether Government are aware that some of the popular brands of infant weaning foods

contain large quantities of Apples which may be source of pesticides and if so, the monitoring surveillance and testing carried out so far by States/Union Territories yearwise during the last three years and the results thereof; and

(e) whether it is a fact that Alar (Daminozide) pesticide is also used in India and if so, the quantitites produced/imported for last three years and value thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV) : (a) Government have seen the report appearing in the Time of March, 6, 1989 highlighting risks to health of children in U.S.A. as a result of consumption of pesticide contaminated article of foods.

(b) Sporadic studies carried out by ICAR, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Indian Council of Medical Research did show the presence of pesticide residues in food, but in majority of samples; the quantity of pesticide residues was found to be within the prescribed limit.

(c) Apples are not exposed to heavy doses of pesticides because only 5-7 sprayings of recommended pesticides are given in the season.

(d) No such report on contamination of baby food including weaning food with pesticide residue has come to the notice of the Government

(e) Alar (Daminozide) is not registered for use in the country under Insecticides Act, 1968.

Capacity Utilisation of Tetrapack Machines by NDDB

1227. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that only 20 percent capacity of the 18 tetrapack machines purchased by the NDDB in 1981 at a cost of Rs. 3 crores is being utilised and if so what are the reasons therefor;

(b) whether it is also a fact that other tetrabrick machines were purchased on single tender basis involving Rs. 30 crore in foreign exchange in 1986-87 with only 25% capacity as compared to the tetrapack machines while the cost is three times more and that these machines are lying unutilised; and

(c) if so, what are the compulsions in purchasing these machines and what action has been taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) National Dairy Developmnt Board received 16 Tetra Pack machines during 1980–82 at a total cost of Rs. 2.18 crores. The capacity utilisation of these machines during 1988-89 was about 13%. Low utilisation has been mainly due to reduced availability of milk for aseptic packaging following drought conditions in the recent past.

(b) and (c) 31 Tetra Brick machines were purchased at a cost of Rs. 15.18 crores in foreign exchange. Single tender purchase became necessary since only Tetrapack had quoted for such machines and at that point of time Tetrapack were the only internationally renowned manufacturing firm for